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Anti and Pro-Castroites Stir Up Storm in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 4 — (UPI) — Government agents today investigated reports of anti-Castro guerrilla training camps in Mexico and alleged operations of pro-Castro agitators among Mexican peasants and students.

The reported anti-Castro camp was said to be located in the state of Oaxaca and financed by ex-Cuban President Carlos Prío Socarrás, who lives in Miami, but has been here on several visits.

A version given in today's "La Prensa" said that a Cuban exile settled in Oaxaca since 1961 had become a local "Boss" and maintained a private army of Cuban exiles there.

Meanwhile, other newspaper reports here told of a "peasant lift" organized in Cuba to carry Mexican peasants to the island for subversive training.

They are then returned to Mexico and carry on agitation and make the peasants restless because their demands for lands have not been satisfied, according to the newspaper versions.

"Excelsior" today said in a dispatch from Fresnillo, in Zacatecas state, the "Castro-Communist elements have succeeded in infiltrating in our country and are trying to create a climate of agitation among peasants, principally in the states of San Luis, Potosi, Guanajuato, Jalisco, Zacatecas, Nayarit, Durango and Chihuahua."

It added that investigations are under way in Guanajuato, and that in Aguascalientes, amateur radio operators had reported hearing "frankly communist propaganda."

The "agitators" include "Cuban professors and peasants," the newspaper added.

A band headed by a teacher has eluded persecution ordered by Governor Praxedes Giner Duran in Chihuahua, the report said.

The Zacatecas state government said, "all is peaceful" but other versions said that Roman Catholic church missions had reported that Huichole Indian had become "aggressive," egged on by Communist agitation.

"Excelsior" quoted a priest as reporting that "attempts had been made to assassinate missionaries."

A Fascist-type, anti-semitic organization known as "M.U.R.O." recently denounced by high church officials here and claiming university student membership, issued a statement urging ouster of the Cuban ambassador in Mexico.

The statement said he has been conducting subversive activity among students in various states and cited a speech-making tour he recently made in southeastern and western Mexico.

Although avowedly anti-Communist, the "M.U.R.O." activities drew censure from Catholic church officials on the grounds that it used religion to cloak its totalitarian aim and demanded vows of members in secret rites.

The Cuban exile "Revolutionary Student Directorate" today said that the Cuban Embassy here is the "transmission belt" for subversive instructions aimed at Central and South America.

The exiles said that seditious propaganda brought by diplomatic pouch is being distributed throughout Latin America.

"The Cuban Embassy in Mexico is in charge of arranging trips for Latin American students to visit Cuba, via Mexico, in order to train them in the guerrilla school run by former Spanish generals Alberto Bayo and Enrique Lister, the latter an officer in the Russian Soviet Army," the Cuban exile statement said.

The guerrilla school, in Tarra, near Havana, is now training 25 Guatemalans in sabotage, demolition and guerrilla fighting, for infiltration soon into the Central American country, it added.

The exiles also said that the Castro government has a special department for "indoctrinating diplomats in subversive activity."

The anti-Castro group in Oaxaca has killed two peasants who were making land claims, "La Prensa" said in a column written by Fausto Zapata, who added that they also burned down a small settlement of peasants who had been asking that a big estate be parcelled.

The column cited a Cuban

exile, identified as Pablo Machado, as head of "small and aggressive private army made up almost exclusively of Cuban anti-Castroites, former drug peddlers and gambling casino bouncers."

"Machado has at his service even municipal officials and police officers and controls a zone of more than 150,000 hectares in a sugarcane growing area," it added.

Former Cuban Army officers are training the "guerrillas" in that region, it said.